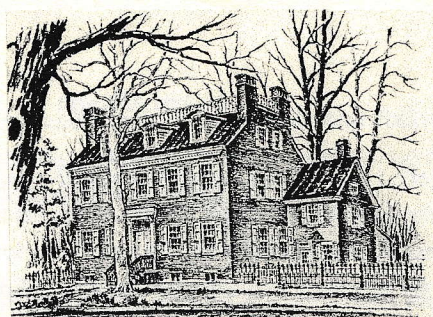


974.9
pam h
#626 C.2



THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF HADDONFIELD

Greenfield Hall

Volume 54, No. 2

343 Kings Highway East - Haddonfield, New Jersey 08033

May 2010

THE HISTORY OF BEEKEEPING

WITH SETH BELSON, PRESIDENT OF SOUTH JERSEY BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION
Wednesday evening, May 26, 7:30 in Greenfield Hall

Those buzzing bees! We can find their smiling "faces" on jars of delicious honey. A cute little one is shown flitting around as the mascot for a local radio station. There's even a toy battery-operated helicopter named the "honeybee."

However, most of us try to avoid those flying insects. Many of us have experienced their painful stings and the pain and swelling which accompany them. For some people, a sting may trigger a dangerous allergic reaction. It's little comfort to know that usually honeybees will sting only when they think their hive is threatened.

Maybe we'd feel better knowing that honey bees are a vital component of U. S. agriculture. They pollinate a wide variety of crops, probably at least one-third of what is grown in our country. Without this bee pollination, there would be a significant decrease in the yield of fruits and vegetables.

Unfortunately, the commercial honeybee population has dropped more than a third and it's continuing to drop at an alarming rate. The decrease, attributed to "colony collapse disorder," presents a severe threat to farmers today, but so far research has failed to find what has caused the disorder.

Our speaker, Seth Belson, has been a beekeeper since 2006. A 1987 Hofstra graduate who received a law degree three years later, he has been a member of the New Jersey Public Defenders Office since 1991. At this time, he has eighteen bee hives in his back yard. He sells honey and is available for bee and swarm removal. His bees can provide pollination services when necessary.



Seth Belson and some of his bees

Seth will speak about the importance of beekeeping. He will tell us little-known facts about honeybees, about their economic value, their societal value and their place in our collective history.

Mark your calendar to come to Greenfield Hall on May 26 to hear all about this little-understood member of the agricultural community. You'll have a chance to meet the beekeeper after the program and enjoy the fellowship of the group while having refreshments in the keeping room.

Read about our 2010 Founder's Day Celebration in this issue.
Mark your calendar for June 6 and plan to spend the afternoon
in our Gardens honoring our invaluable volunteers.

PRESIDENT'S PAGE

by Lee Albright

As incoming President of the Historical Society, I have to say I am honored and, yes, just a little bit nervous, at the prospect of trying to fill the amazingly competent "shoes" of our dear Dianne. Talk about a tough act to follow! Highly organized as well as fiercely protective of our Society's interests, Dianne has been at the helm for the past four years as a very capable and caring steward. In working with her, I don't think I could have asked for a better role model for the office of president. She has passed down to me her "tools" of leadership. I have been very lucky indeed to find such a mentor and friend.

Allow me to introduce myself to those of you I haven't met yet. I am a long-time resident of Haddonfield, living in a lovely (but needy!) 1868 Victorian with my husband and four children (not quite so needy!) for over 22 years. Historic preservation is one of my greatest interests and passions. To this end, I am increasing my fund of knowledge by taking college level preservation courses as I work towards a historic preservation certificate. (The technical word for the dust collecting all over my house as I write my papers and read my text books is "patina").

My other volunteer work within the community includes a second term on the Borough of Haddonfield's Historic Preservation Commission which is a design review advisory committee for the Haddonfield Planning Board, and as publicity chairperson for the Haddonfield Civic Association. Finally, I am also a volunteer at our Historical Society's Library, toiling away for our wonderful librarian, Kathy Tassini, twice a week as the resident tech person. In other words, if something doesn't work, Kathy says "Let Lee figure it out!" The flatbed scanner knows who's boss but the computer still outsmarts me at times :).

Enough about me. I am happy to say The Historical Society of Haddonfield that I'm inheriting is in fine shape with a sturdy foundation, due to the leadership of Dianne and the efforts of the countless volunteers who have given their blood, sweat and probably quite a few tears for the good of the Society. We are blessed with many generous people who, without hesitation, set aside time out of their busy days to help with tasks such as docent tours, the Holly Festival, Founder's Day, the children's educational tours, the Exhibits, building maintenance, landscaping and fundraising in general. In addition, our members have tackled the various nuts-and-bolts assignments and committees that are critical to the functioning of our Society with a smile and whatever else it takes to get the job done. What I have seen since I joined the Society gives me great hope for our future.

In the coming years, we have challenges in our path, some financial, some physical plant issues and some logistical, but I am confident that by working together we will make the right decisions and accomplish much that is needed. In addition, hard to believe, but our Centennial is coming, along with the 300th anniversary for our town - both are on the horizon. It will be here in the blink of an eye so we have to begin thoughtful considerations of these celebrations. Over the coming months, I will seek the input of all members of our Board and Committees to learn what challenges they see in our future to create a prioritized list of goals and objectives. Because it's necessary to create a path for the future that considers everyone's hopes and dreams, not just a few. Please remember that my door is always open.

And what about those other challenges that just pop up without warning..... hmmm, now where did I put that "toolbox?" I look forward to serving the Society with the best of my abilities during my term of office. Thank you for the opportunity.

<i>Officers</i>		<i>Trustees</i>	
President	Lee Albright	Term expires 2011	Carol Carty
Vice President	Carol Smith		Joseph Haro
Treasurer	Thomas Mervine		Robert Kugler
Recording Secretary	Barbara Hilgen	Term expires 2012	Elizabeth Albert
Corresponding Secretary	Sophie Dubiel		Helen Boyle
Immediate Past President	Dianne Snodgrass		Patricia Lennon
Legal Counsel	John Reisner	Term expires 2013	Constance McCaffrey
Webmaster	Carol R. Harkins		Karen Weaver
Bulletin Editor	Constance B. Reeves		Kim Custer
			Sue Reintzel
			Ruth Sine
			Helene Zimmer-Loew

Our outgoing President, Dianne Snodgrass, has written the following farewell letter after serving the Society for four years. We are fortunate that Dianne will be continuing her association with the Society as Past President and as the chair of our Collections Committee.

Dear Friends:

What a good run! Thank you one and all for your support over these past four years.

I feel very confident in handing over the gavel to your next President, Lee Albright. Lee and her complement of officers, trustees and committee chairs have the museum experience to carry forward the mission of the Historical Society of Haddonfield.

We have certainly been through a variety of situations from the ash tree being struck by lightning to the outside vandalism last December. Circumstances at Greenfield Hall have been improved by the Total Electrical Rewire project, the New Furnace replacement (old one was around 90 years old) and Security Motion Detecting Lighting to choose but a few. At the Society's Library next door, the outstanding exterior restoration of the Samuel Mickle House last fall is unsurpassed.

We are now a very active organization with fourteen committees working toward the objectives stated in our constitution adopted in November of 1914. Laws change and the society changes. HSH has done well moving ahead of the curve, proving we are a solid group run by extremely loyal volunteers. This is so evident every year as our volunteers are honored on Founder's Day. We average 100 annually, a remarkable total.

I have done my best for the Society in leading by example. I have been there for all of you. Many situations have required my seeking legal and professional guidance. I am satisfied that my decisions will carry the organization in the correct direction and am very proud of our officers, trustees, committee chairs and volunteers.

I wish you all the best.

LIBRARY NEWS

by Kathy Tassini

Although the very snowy winter caused some library and Greenfield Hall closings, our on-line inquiries more than made up for the reduced number of in-person researchers. With the coming of spring, we have seen a big surge in researchers coming to use the collection. Fortunately, we have an incredible group of volunteers who work with our collections and with research service. They are Pat Lennon, Charlesanna Fallstick, Helen Mountney, Nan Mattis, Carol Zelinski, Kim Custer, Lee Albright and Doug Rauschenberger. Thank you all for all of the work you do to make the collections accessible to our members and researchers from all over the country.

As we approach the 300th Anniversary of the Settlement of Haddonfield in 2013 and the centennial of the Historical Society of Haddonfield in 2014, Kim Custer has undertaken a massive research project on Samuel Nicholson Rhoads, who was the real driving force behind the huge celebration which took place in 1913 and a founder of the Historical Society.

Thanks are due also to those who have donated materials to our collection, some of which are listed below:

Rhoads, Elizabeth Danenhower Rhoads and the estate of Robert Rockhill: Danenhower and Rhoads family diplomas and photographs from Haddonfield

Estate of Alice G. Brown: Photos and materials relating to Alice Gertrude Brown

Kim Custer: Materials relating to Haddonfield Parks and Open Space

Lee Albright: Research paper on Clement Remington, Haddonfield Architect

Martha Goettelmann & Doug Oswald in memory of Jimmy Del Visci: Sanborn Insurance Maps of Haddonfield, NJ, 1923 & Haddonfield Directory

Anonymous: Hannah Cutler Groves materials

Leroy Charles Oberholtzer: An Autobiography of Leroy Charles Oberholtzer (CD & printout of Haddonfield years.)

MOVING HOUSES AROUND AND ABOUT Part IX

by Helen S. Mountney

OUR OWN SAMUEL MICKLE HOUSE

I AM THE HIP ROOF HOUSE

I'm a little house but a very sturdy one for my birthday was in 1742.
Since my beginning, I have watched many changes taking place in Haddonfield.

That is more than any of you can boast of in this day and age.

Little houses such as I were often seen up and down throughout our Thirteen Colonies
during the early part of the 18th century and we seemed to have come into our own shortly
after the first crude log homes were built when first our settlers landed here.

I'm not as elegant as my sister who rises high above me, but as I nestle in beside her, you
must admit that I too am rather a lovely example of good Early American Architecture.

And that the people building me reflected their good taste for comfortable and pleasant
living in this old historic town.

For a number of years I seemed to be completely forgotten and then—a miracle happened—
the Haddonfield Historical Society, through the determined efforts of Ruth and Jack Dalton
and the able leadership of Martha and Lou Goettelman and their Board, rescued me and I
became part of the Haddonfield Historical Society's family.

September 2, 1965 was moving day for me . . .

Ruth N. Armstrong

The one building most famous in Haddonfield for being moved (actually twice) is the Society's own "Samuel Mickle House," built in the early 1700's by Samuel Mickle. It was originally called the "Sarah Hopkins House" and for many years, it was "nicknamed," and commonly misnamed, the "Hip Roof House"-- it has a GAMBREL roof! It took the noted architect and historian from the Society Hill section of Philadelphia, Charles Peterson, in 1967, to point out firmly that this was NOT a "hip roof house," and the Society renamed it the "Samuel Mickle House." Mr. Peterson also mentioned that this was quite a historical prize and it was well worth restoring.

The following is an excerpt from the minutes of the Society of April 15, 1962, which tells a somewhat mistaken history of the house and the story of the acquisition of what has been the Society's wonderful historical Library since 1990:

This frame house was built in about 1740 and, according to the best historical authority, is the oldest residential structure still standing in the town. Traditionally it was originally built on a foundation at the northeast corner of Kings Highway and Tanner Street. At that time Tanner Street was the entrance land for the Elizabeth Haddon Estaugh farm. It was probably the gate house. Later it was moved to a site beside the Indian King Tavern on the East. Later it was moved again to its present site.

This house was the first home of Ebenezer Hopkins, a nephew of Mrs. John (Elizabeth Haddon) Estaugh, which he occupied with his bride Sarah Lord of Woodbury Heights. His mother was Mrs. Sarah Haddon Hopkins of England, a sister of Elizabeth Haddon Estaugh, the founder of Haddonfield. Ebenezer immigrated here in 1720 at about seven years of age.

"The house and land are a part of the estate of Mrs. George Vickers, recently deceased. She expressed her wish that before it is offered for sale on the open market, the property should be offered to the Haddonfield Historical Society for purchase at a favorable price so as to give an opportunity for its preservation as one of the survivals of the early days of the community.

The price has been set, for purchase by the Society, at \$4000.00 by the Executors. The assessed valuation for taxation is \$4800.00. No real estate sales commission is included in the price and none will be required of the Society.

Having just committed all of its available resources to the purchase of Greenfield Hall, the Society, very favorably disposed toward the preservation of the house, would not be able to undertake the expenditure for several years. The executors are obligated to have some assurances of the Society's intentions by April 25. Accordingly, the Board of Trustees of the Historical Society has, as individuals, underwritten the \$400.00 required as a down payment to close a contract of sale. This project has been placed in the hands of a special committee of Society members including: Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Dalton (Chairmen), Mr. and Mrs. Harry A. Bauer, Mr. and Mrs. Albert T. Bauer, Mr. and Mrs. Edwin J. Pearson, Mr. M. Elmond Neeley, Mrs. J. G. Haydock, Sr. and Mr. J. G. Haydock, Jr.

What a dedicated group—and we give them credit for their time, their talents and their expertise for what they worked so hard to accomplish!

Notice in paragraph 1 of the minutes it says “it was at the northeast corner of Kings Highway East and Tanner Street,” and “was probably the gate house for the Elizabeth Haddon Estaugh farm.” This would have been the first of THREE locations for this house, but no evidence or records have ever been found to support this claim. The claim in paragraph 2 that it was the first home of Ebenezer Hopkins and his bride, Sarah (Lord) Hopkins, is also without historical foundation. We know that early in their marriage, they lived in what is now the Hopkins House along the Cooper River in Westmont.

In an article written by Ruth Dalton in 1965, she mentioned that she had known Mrs. Florence Vickers, a widow, from their church activities and had talked to her at length about the future of the historic house she owned at 23 Ellis Street. Subsequently, Mrs. Vickers contacted Mr. James Trend, a long-time realtor in Haddonfield, who handled her real estate holdings, and he, in turn, contacted her lawyer to change her will to contain a clause giving the Society “first refusal” to purchase this property. When Mrs. Vickers died in 1962, the Society was contacted and proceedings began. Mr. Trend donated the full commission for his services regarding this transaction to the Society. At the time Mrs. Dalton was discussing this property with Mrs. Vickers, a Mr. and Mrs. A. Van Dyke were living in the house.

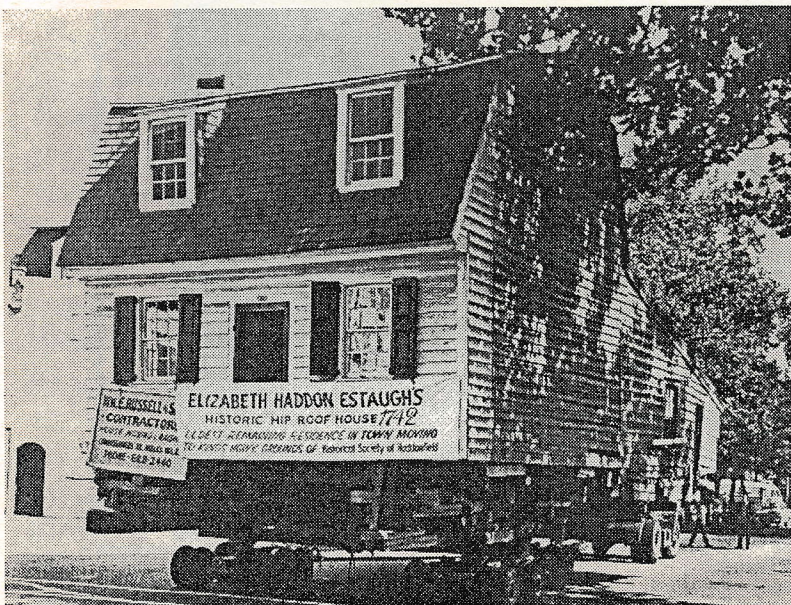


The little house on Ellis Street

Having only recently purchased Greenfield Hall, the Society struggled to raise funds to purchase and move the building to its present location next to Greenfield Hall at 343 Kings Highway East where the front room was used as a museum and the back shed area was set up as a meeting room for the Society's Board of Directors. The whole house (top to bottom) is now used for a research library.

Letters were sent to members and to various local organizations asking for donations for the pending move and one fairly large donation was received anonymously. Even children did some fund raising on their own, obtaining and distributing small banks to be filled.

One fund raiser the Society held for this project was the sale of hand-blown glass bottles made especially for the cause, in the shape of the house, by Clevenger Brothers Glass Works in Clayton, New Jersey. They ordered 500 amber bottles which were sold for \$10.00 each.



On its way

Settlement for 23 Ellis Street was held by and between Haddonfield National Bank, Executor of the Estate of Anna Florence Vickers, and the Historical Society of Haddonfield on July 21, 1962, and the Society soon received its first rent check from the tenant for \$40.00 (for a month) for the property. The rent was increased soon thereafter. The real estate taxes on this property in 1965 were \$110.00.

According to the minutes of April 9, 1962, it was estimated that the move would cost between \$2,500.00 and \$3,200.00, and that the Haddonfield National Bank agreed to lend the Society \$4,000.00 to cover the moving expenses. The Society did end up borrowing a small sum for moving expenses and was able to pay it off by November of 1963.

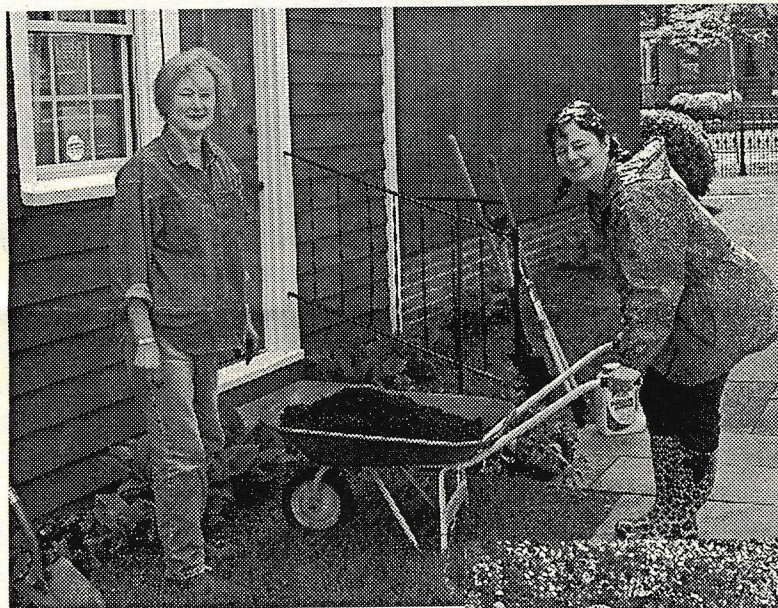
On September 2, 1967, the house was moved with great fanfare to the Greenfield Hall site. On its eastward

journey, it went past its original site at 227 Kings Highway East. When the house arrived at its destination, it was maneuvered onto a new cement/cinder block foundation with a full basement which extends under the whole building and is now used mostly for library storage along with the heating and water systems. The moving process was performed by William E. Russell & Sons from Mullica Hill, New Jersey. This company went out of business around the turn of this century.

On June 22, 1966, the empty lot at 23 Ellis Street was sold to Solomon Stein and Nancy, his wife, of Cherry Hill, New Jersey, for \$4,000.00, a cash purchase. The Steins owned Barry Decorators on Kings Highway East and wanted that piece of ground which would give them access to the rear of their building. In 1998, the Steins sold the land to Kings Road Associates. Both of these parties needed the land for access to the rear of the properties owned at 210, 212, and 214 Kings Highway East (formerly Barry Decorators). Kings Road Associates still owns this property, and at this writing, this land is still vacant!

At the time of this writing, we have researched and found over twenty-five deeds pertaining to this property, in three locations beginning in 1664 (and we are not finished)! In the next issue, we will look into some of the facts and figures involving the owners and/or tenants—of which there are many. If only the floorboards could talk!

CLEAN-UP DAY AT GREENFIELD HALL




April 17, a perfect day to join forces to clean up the grounds of Greenfield Hall in readiness for the new season. Officers, members and friends pitched in to complete the work in the morning and now we can enjoy the Gardens in their full beauty.

A few of the participants are included here in pictures taken by Lee Albright. Check out those bright, happy smiles.

In the picture above, Ruth Sine and Kim Custer are loading mulch to take to the rear plantings.

To the right are high school students, Sarah Wilson and Katie Smith, working in the Gardens distributing some of that mulch.






You are invited to
The Historical Society of Haddonfield's

*Founder's Day Garden Party
and Silent Auction*

Sunday, June 6th, 2010
2:00 - 4:30 p.m.

The Garden's of Greenfield Hall

- 5th Society Commemoration of Founder's Day
 - Celebration of The Samuel Mickle House Restoration
 - Special Recognition to Jim Hansen Painting Company
 - Honor Roll of Society's Volunteers
 - Bountiful Refreshments and Libations
- 

FOUNDER'S DAY GARDEN PARTY AND SILENT AUCTION

by Dianne Snodgrass

The Society will sponsor its fifth anniversary of celebrating Founder's Day on Sunday, June 6. Mark your calendars now and plan to join us from 2 to 4:30 in the afternoon for a grand Garden Party. Ladies, do wear your big hats; we anticipate a beautiful afternoon.

Introducing a new twist this time, all members of the Historical Society and their guests are invited to attend. We shall continue our tradition of celebrating our Honor Roll of Volunteers who have participated in events over the past year and without whom the Society could never function. Particularly important is the Special Recognition to be given to Jim Hansen Painting Company for the awesome restoration work they completed on the Samuel Mickle House. Proceeds from the 2007 Haddonfield Holiday House Tour made this project possible. Mayor Tish Colombi will present the annual Mayoral Proclamation recognizing the services of our volunteers and the dedication of Jim Hansen and his crew.

Refreshments will be served: Sweets and Savories, wine & cheese, catered by none other than HSH's finest hospitality committee.

The Silent Auction will be open for your bids from two o'clock until four. Terms are: we need your name and a contact number, either email or phone. Do follow the bid increments of each piece. After the close of the auction, if your name is the last one on the bid's sheet(s), you are the winner. You may retrieve your treasure after settling up with our cashier. We will take cash or check only. If you are a winner and must leave before the auction's close at 4 PM, a Society representative will contact you the week of June 7-11, using the number(s) you provided to inform you what you owe and when you can come by the Society to pick up your piece(s).

As of Bulletin press time, the pieces for auction include: a pair of Victorian Lady's chairs, upholstered seats; Grandma Moses print, "Church Christmas Tree," 1949; water color of Indian King Tavern by Carducci; pen & ink Friends Meeting House by F. Koeshizo, 1966; Goebel figure "Praying Little Girl," W. German about 6.5"; Wedgewood pitcher, Jasperware, blue and white, 6"; lot of political memorabilia such as 5 small pins, Troast for Governor campaign hat, GOP 1956 ashtray Camden County Republican Association with an elephant motif, a man's BBQ apron for 7th Annual Dinner of Camden County Republican Association with elephant motif; Mother-of-Pearl fan in original kid box; Canton plate, blue glaze, 8"; two Hitchcock kitchen type chairs, half spindle back, plank seat, stripped, some repairs, not a pair; Holiday ornament, 1997 U.S. Mint with signed card in original box; framed woodcut print 1/1 named "Arches," 20"x11", signed but not legible; Marlene Dietrich 33LP album in jacket in German, marked Imported; lot of 4 "Life" magazines dated 4/12/1968 "Death of Martin Luther King," 5/10/1963 "Bay of Pigs Invasion," 3/8/1986 "The Negro & The Cities," 7/5/1968 Special Issue "The Presidency;" Canes and Walking Sticks; lot of 6 "Mad" magazines Dec. 1984, Apr. 1984, June 1979, June 1984, March 1964, Oct. 1979; water color of Greenfield Hall by C. Karney c. 1950; 2 gallon stoneware jug.

The Society looks forward to seeing you on June 6 at its 5th Founder's Day Celebration, rain or shine, in the beautiful Gardens at Greenfield Hall.

PLEASE SEND US YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS.

Our member email list is incomplete and we are headed in the "paperless" direction.

If you would like to receive our electronic communications, please send Jean a quick email at info@historicalsocietyofhaddonfield.org

Our Candlelight Dinner speaker, Garry Stone, told an engrossing story of our town during the American Revolution. Several of our members asked us to include his talk in our next Bulletin. Garry graciously agreed to share it with us.

A TAVERN AT A CROSS-ROADS, A TAVERN IN THE CROSS-FIRE THE INDIAN KING, 1777-1778

by Garry Wheeler Stone

Haddonfield was the market town of Newton Township, Gloucester County. In the 18th century, Gloucester County stretched from the Delaware River to the Atlantic Ocean, encompassing the present areas of Atlantic, Camden, and Gloucester counties. It was almost inevitable that a town would develop here. We are located just above the head of navigation on the Cooper River at the lowest point where the river could be readily forded and then bridged. Here the "great road from Burlington to Salem" crossed the river. The "great road," our picturesque Kings Highway, was the region's most important north-south road, and intersecting it here was the east-west road that ran from Egg Harbor to Philadelphia. The ancestor of Warwick Road led to Egg Harbor, and the predecessor to Haddon Avenue was the Ferry Road leading to the upper and lower Cooper's ferries. Relating to modern roads, the Indian King Tavern was half a block from the intersection of the New Jersey Turnpike, I-676, and the Atlantic City Expressway.

Haddonfield was Gloucester County's largest settlement and the New Jersey village closest to Philadelphia. The ferries from the Cooper's landings took you to the foot of Arch Street, one block from Market Street and the center of the largest English-speaking city in the Americas. This location would be both a blessing and a curse—a blessing during the first half of 1777, when the Main British Army occupied the Raritan River Valley, and a curse from September 1777 through June 1778, when the Main British Army occupied Philadelphia.

In January 1777, the New Jersey legislature moved to Haddonfield from Pittston, Hunterdon County. It moved here because of the British invasion of New Jersey. During the night of November 19-20, 1776, 4,000 men of the British Army scaled the Hudson River palisades, forcing the evacuation of Fort Lee. The British Army was in New Brunswick December 2, and by mid-December, they occupied all of Northeastern New Jersey from Bergen County to Burlington. The New Jersey legislature had been meeting in Burlington, but on December 2 they adjourned and returned to their counties to help raise the militia. General George Washington's victories at the first and second battles of Trenton and Princeton pushed the British back to the Raritan River, and on January 24 the legislature was called back into session in the relative safety of Pittston. After meeting for one morning, rumors of another British advance caused the legislature to adjourn to Haddonfield.

Haddonfield was a logical choice. It was safely out-of-reach of the British Army and it was just across the Delaware River from Philadelphia, the Capital of the United States of America. Today, when we think of New Jersey's State government, we think of massive buildings and thousands of persons. In 1777, our entire legislative apparatus could have squeezed into a Greyhound bus. The State had 13 counties. Each county elected three members of the Assembly and one member of the Legislative Council, a total of 52 persons.

The legislature occupied correspondingly little space. Convening here on January 29, they met in two rooms. The Legislative council rented a room from Andrew Hudson, while the Assembly rented a room from Thomas Smith. The Assembly employed Smith to be their doorkeeper and to provide firewood and candles. The legislature also held their joint meetings at Smith's. Conference committees were held at Smith's or at Kinnard's tavern.

Thomas Smith was one of the three tenants of Thomas Redman, Shopkeeper, and owner of the building that would become Hugh Creighton's Indian King Tavern. When on May 1, 1777, Redman sold the building to Creighton, the building was described as four dwellings—three brick and one frame, for which there were three tenants. The frame dwelling probably was a large outbuilding. The three brick dwellings fronting the highway had been developed by Mathias Aspden, a Philadelphia merchant, who moved to Haddonfield in 1745. Aspden purchased the buildings of a brewery and rebuilt and extended them in brick. We believe that Thomas Smith was renting the central portion of the building and that the Assembly met in the large second floor room, the room that is now the tavern ballroom. At that time it probably was not a tavern ballroom. More likely, it had been a shopkeeper's storeroom. It was not in good repair. The Assembly paid the large sum of £3-9s-10d for "repairing the Assembly Room."

The Assembly would meet at Thomas Smith's for two and a half sessions in 1777. Their first session ran from January 29 through March 18, their second from May 7 through June 7. They began a fall session on September 3rd. On September 24, as the British were approaching Philadelphia, the session was abruptly adjourned to Princeton.

Thomas Redman, the owner of Thomas Smith's brick dwelling, was not present to enjoy seeing the government improve his property. He was in jail. Redman was a devote member of the Society of Friends and Clerk of the Haddonfield Meeting. He had made the mistake of reading a letter from the Philadelphia Meeting, a letter advocating peace. Two Woodbury justices considered this

treason and, on January 21, had Redman jailed. Redman remained in jail until March 18. He would have remained in jail longer except for an administrative sleight of hand by the sheriff, Colonel Joseph Ellis. Ellis was commander of the 2 Battalion, Gloucester County militia, a very active and competent rebel, and my candidate for Gloucester County hero of the American Revolution. His house still stands in Haddon Heights.

We frequently see our 18th century beginnings through rose-tinted glasses. The real legislative histories of our beginnings, however, both National and State, were much messier. They were similar to our Congressional debates during the height of the Iraq War, except that in 1777, the war was not on the other side of the world; it was here in New Jersey. In 1777, as in Iraq, it was a struggle between an aggressive executive, Governor William Livingston, who strongly supported the war, and a legislature afraid of alienating the voters who had elected them.

The greatest challenge facing the legislature was New Jersey's militia. On January 24, 1777, General George Washington wrote Governor Livingston a scathing letter, part of which follows:

"The irregular and disjointed State of the Militia of this province, makes it necessary for me to inform you, that unless a Law is passed by your Legislature to reduce them to some order, and oblige them to turn out in a different Manner from what they have hitherto done, we shall bring very few into the Field, and even those few, will render little or no Service... Your first object should be a well regulated Militia Law. The people, put under good Officers, would behave in quite another manner, and not only render real Service as Soldiers, but would protect, instead of distressing the Inhabitants."

During every 1777 session, the legislature struggled with this issue. A detailed act was passed in the first sitting, amended in the second, and revised again in September. Second in difficulty was filling up and equipping the four New Jersey battalions in the Continental Army. In Haddonfield, the legislature also passed acts funding county armories, prohibiting the export of provisions and war material, and granting partial militia exemptions to workers producing munitions. Here in March, a "Council of Safety" (administering martial law) was reauthorized for six months and then reauthorized in September.

While meeting in Haddonfield, the other great business of the legislature was that of completing the structure of State government. In June 1776, with invasion looming, the Provincial Congress had drafted a new constitution in five days. Adopted on July 2, two days before the 2nd Continental Congress approved the Declaration of Independence, New Jersey's Constitution was little more than an outline. It was the constitution of a "Colony" that would become void "if a reconciliation between Great-Britain and these Colonies should take place."

At Haddonfield, the legislature worked to add detail to the outline. Acts were passed setting up courts, governing townships, and defining the duties of constables. Another act directed that public records were to be preserved. Councilors and Assemblymen devoted much time to crafting an election law. In May, by resolution, the legislature approved a new state seal, a seal that advertised liberty and sovereignty. In September, they took a step recognizing that peaceful reconciliation with Great Britain had become impossible. Act 41 was entitled "An Act to ascertain the Punishment for High-Treason, and to establish the Word State instead of Colony in Commissions, Writs, and other Process, and for other Purposes therein mentioned."

In urgent circumstances, the legislature skipped the tedious process of enacting "Acts" and governed by resolution. After the defeat of the Continental Army at Brandywine, September 11, 1777, the legislature passed four emergency resolutions: ordering out the West Jersey militias; petitioning the Continental Congress for powder and shot; purchasing blankets to replace those lost at the battle, and impressing horses and wagons to move army supplies out of Philadelphia. Just days later, the New Jersey government fled Haddonfield.

January-September, 1777, New Jersey governmental records are deplete with citations to Thomas Smith's and Hugh Creighton's building. During the subsequent nine months, there is not a single reference to the Indian King Tavern. The tavern, probably the largest dwelling in Haddonfield, certainly played a role. Presumably, it housed soldiers for most of those nine months. An act of the New Jersey Legislature, drafted in Haddonfield, laid down strict guidelines for quartering American forces. Soldiers were to occupy taverns first, then unoccupied buildings, and only with authorization of a justice of the peace were they to move into occupied dwellings.

In July 1777, the British commander-in-chief, Sir William Howe, gave up trying to win the war in northern New Jersey. Instead, he decided to win the war by capturing the rebel capital of Philadelphia. While thoughtful British officers wondered what occupying different territory would accomplish, the huge British main army was embarked and in August sailed for the Chesapeake. The British landed at the head of the Chesapeake August 25, defeated Washington at Brandywine on September 11, and marched into Philadelphia on September 26. Between the British occupation of Philadelphia in September 1777, and their evacuation of the city in

June 1778, the enemy would occupy Haddonfield four times: October 21, 1777, February 26-March 1, 1778, April 5, 1778, and June 18-20, 1778. The October march through Haddonfield was part of the British campaign to wrestle control of the Delaware River from the Continentals; the February 1778 occupation was the result of rival foraging expeditions, the April occupation was a failed attack on the Continental troops stationed in Haddonfield, and the June occupation was during the British withdrawal from Philadelphia to New York.

Are you wondering why I have not mentioned when Continental forces occupied Haddonfield? The answer is simple. Continental forces were here whenever the British were not in occupation. Haddonfield's strategic location made it a garrison town. If you want to conjure up an image of Haddonfield, September 1777 to June 1778, think not of 1950's Colonial Williamsburg, think of Baghdad without the palm trees. While Haddonfield was a good-sized town of forty families, even when only militia was stationed here, there would have been one soldier for every inhabitant, and when substantial segments of the Continental or British armies were here, there would have been 5 to 60 soldiers for each inhabitant.

The British occupation of Philadelphia was tenuous as long as Continental artillery controlled the Delaware River. Only two days after the British occupied Philadelphia, they began organizing for an attack on the rebel fort at Billingsport. After a naval bombardment, Scots infantry occupied the fort on October 2. In response, New Jersey militia stepped up their improvements to Fort Mercer at Red Bank and two regiments of Continentals marched through Haddonfield to garrison the fort.

The key to control of the Delaware River was Fort Mifflin on Mud Island. If you have flown into Philadelphia International Airport, you may have seen the Fort as you neared touchdown. The British laid siege to the fort almost as soon as they occupied Philadelphia. By the fourth week of October, they were ready for the final assault. A German force would storm Fort Mercer at Red Bank then, after a naval bombardment, British grenadiers would assault Fort Mifflin. The attacks failed. The attack on Mifflin was aborted when two British warships were destroyed. In New Jersey, Colonel Carl von Donop camped in Haddonfield October 21 before proceeding the next day to Red Bank with four German regiments and a detachment of German light infantry. When Von Donop saw the strength of the fort, he almost called off the assault. Fatally, he decided to continue, with the result that hideous casualties were inflicted upon the Germans. The next day, wagon load after wagon load of German wounded were evacuated through Haddonfield.

The British were desperate to reduce forts Mercer and Mifflin so that supplies could be shipped directly to Philadelphia. They resumed their bombardment of Mifflin while landing troops at Billingsport and constructing a new fort. More Continentals marched through Haddonfield to reinforce the garrison of Fort Mercer. By November 15, British artillery had leveled the fortifications on Mud Island and the British prepared to assault the island on the 16. But the fort was empty, the Continental garrison having slipped away to the Jersey shore at 2 AM that morning. Only Fort Mercer remained.

Washington sent three generals—Knox, DeKalb, and St. Clair—to evaluate the situation at Fort Mercer. By the time they arrived at Mercer November 18, the British were landing 3,000 troops at Billingsport and Cornwallis had another 3,000 embarking at Chester. Over the next three days, Washington would send four brigades and a detachment of Morgan's rifles to the relief of Fort Mercer, but it was too little too late. On November 20th, Cornwallis was at Woodbury with 6,000 men, and that night General Varnum burned Fort Mercer and retreated to Haddonfield. The next day, Varnum marched for the safety of Mt. Holly leaving 700 militia in Haddonfield. Shortly, Morgan's rifles and Continental light dragoons would join the militia in harassing British forces foraging Gloucester County. By November 25, Major-General Nathanael Greene had about 4,000 Continental troops massed at Mt. Holly and was marching to Haddonfield with two brigades. Again, the Continentals were too late. Lord Cornwallis, having demolished the ruins of Fort Mercer, began embarking from Gloucester. When Greene arrived, he found the British too strongly positioned to attack. However, he did not forbid the Marquis de Lafayette from having some fun. That evening, the Marquis with four French officers, 10 Continental light horse, 150 riflemen, and 150 militia under Lieutenant-Colonel Height of Burlington and our own Colonel Joseph Ellis attacked a German outpost of 350 men and "made them run very fast."

The next day, November 26th, Lafayette and Greene wrote reports to Washington from Haddonfield. Before the end of the month, the British were back in Philadelphia and the Continental troops were back in Pennsylvania. However, Greene left Continental light dragoons and riflemen in Haddonfield to "encourage the militia," and skirmishing with the Loyalist and British garrison at Billingsport continued into early December.

In February, the Continentals learned that the British were planning to forage in South Jersey. To preempt the British, February 19, Washington sent Anthony Wayne across the Delaware with infantry and a troop of the 1st Continental Light Dragoons

under Brigadier-General Casimir Pulaski. Foraging in Salem and Gloucester counties, Wayne collected 150 head of cattle and 30 dragoon quality horses. February 25, from Haddonfield, Wayne wrote Washington that he was hoping to collect 250 head of cattle. The British had other ideas. The previous night, two battalions of British light infantry crossed to Billingsport, and the Royal Highlanders and the Queen's American Rangers were crossing at Cooper's Ferry. The British arrived at sunrise, but they were too late. Wayne had evacuated Haddonfield at 11 PM the previous evening, driving his precious herd of cattle and horses towards Mt. Holly.

In his journal, a Scots officer, Captain-Lieutenant John Peebles, made interesting notes about Haddonfield. The town "had been occupied by the Militia all the Winter, to keep the people from supplying the Philada Market, which the states have made felony..., the Village contains about 40 families mostly Quakers who seem to be heartily tired of this Contest." The weather was cold and rainy, "Colol. Stirling order'd the men into barns & placed Guards about the Village. the offrs went in to the inhabitants houses, who seem'd well pleased at our coming."

The British immediately began foraging the surrounding area, meeting scattered resistance from the militia. When Wayne, at Mt. Holly, learned of the foraging, he hurried back. The evening of March 1s, Pulaski attacked an outpost a Kay's mill. That night, the British hurriedly evacuated Haddonfield in sleet and snow. Wayne followed, cautiously, until he learned that the British light infantry was below Billingsport. Then, as the British embarked at Cooper's Ferry, Wayne and Pulaski pushed hard against their outposts, trying to lure the British away from their naval artillery support. The Scots and Queen's Rangers pushed back, but refused to take the bait. In the skirmishing, Count Pulaski's horse was killed. To the British left, the Rangers were harassed by Colonel Ellis and the militia firing across the Cooper River.

In March, conditions in Gloucester County worsened. On the 18th, the British began foraging in Salem County, and on the 22nd, they landed 80 Loyalists at Billingsport and began rebuilding the fort. The Loyalist landing sparked a mutiny in the Gloucester County militia. Col. Joseph Ellis reported to Governor Livingston that "Col: Otto's Battalion have chiefly revolted to the Enemy & have made Prisoners of a Number of their Officers...The Market to Philadelphia is now open nor is it in my Power to stop it." Washington had sent the 2nd New Jersey Regiment to reinforce the militia. When Colonel Isreal Shreve arrived in Haddonfield, he wrote Washington "the tories has got to such a height about Manty Creek and Woodberry that no Whig can pass safe."

When the British learned that Haddonfield was strongly garrisoned, they took counter measures. On April 5, they sent 500 light infantry across the River to Gloucester Town where they landed at 1 AM. Shreve reported "Half after three the Enemy entered the town, we had left it about 10 minutes. Upon a signal they Gave three Huzzays and immediately stove open the Doors, wounded several Inhabitants, Burnt 2 houses belonging to Quakers, plundered the town, and Returned by way of Coopers ferry." A militia rider, sent to warn the garrison at Cooper's Ferry, made the mistake of returning through Haddonfield, and was bayoneted in the King's Highway. The Continentals and militia stopped quartering in Haddonfield, but kept Haddonfield as the daytime rendezvous of detachments patrolling Gloucester County.

In May, the British fortified Cooper's Ferry to protect wood cutters. When, in June, the British realized that they would have to withdraw from Philadelphia to New York, they began transporting equipment and men to Cooper's Ferry. Before daybreak on June 18, the last British troops were hurried across the river while the troops at Cooper's Ferry began marching for Haddonfield. That night, an army of over 19,000 men, about 1,000 women and children, and more than 1,000 wagons camped around Haddonfield and along the roads leading from Cooper's and Gloucester ferries. Lieutenant Charles von Krafft was hutted in a fallow field to the south of the village. He wrote in his diary "at 9.30 o'clock we heard many shots from our outposts on the right and from the Yagers on the left." The next day, the 1st Division under Sir Henry Clinton and Lord Cornwallis marched to Evesham, while Lieutenant-General Knyphausen, the 2nd Division, and the baggage crossed the Cooper River and prepared to march for Moorestown. On the 20th, the last of the British Army left Gloucester County. In its wake was the normal destruction of a large army marching without tents: several thousand "wigwams" constructed from fence rails and tree branches, cherry trees stripped of fruit, gardens robbed of vegetables, missing poultry, and houses plundered of small items that could easily be carried and sold.

While the war would drag on for years longer, Haddonfield's share was largely over.

Keep in touch with the Society during the summer.
Come to visit, bring your visitors for a tour, and be sure to read what's going on
through our website at www.historicalsocietyofhaddonfield.org.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

by Barbara Hilgen

Membership renewal forms were mailed on April 19. If you've not yet returned yours, please do so at your earliest convenience. Please include all information requested, as it's time to update our database. Remember, we rely on your financial support, through membership, to continue fulfilling the mission of the Historical Society as stated by our founders in 1914.

We welcome one new member, **Gordon F. Compton**.

Look in the September BULLETIN for a complete list of all new and renewing members.

Please use this application form to renew your membership or to invite your friends to join us in our activities.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF HADDONFIELD 2010-2011

I (We) would like to ____renew ____join the Historical Society of Haddonfield. The type of membership desired is:

<input type="checkbox"/> Senior Citizen	\$ 25.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Contributing Member	35.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Contributing Household	55.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Patron Member	150.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Patron Household	250.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Founder's Society	1,000.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Founder's Household	1,500.00

Name _____ E-mail _____

Address _____ Telephone _____

GARAGE SALE: APRIL 10, 2010

by Connie McCaffrey

It says in folklore that sites containing treasure are old churches, mansions, ruined castles, even crossroads. So, Greenfield Hall qualifies and surely valuable items changed hands on Saturday April 10: jewelry, pottery, even everyday usable items.

The Historical Society of Haddonfield made enough money from the "garage sale" to pay for the needed new hot water heater and perhaps enough over to begin to repair squirrel damage to Greenfield Hall. (Beware of what you squirrel away!)

Folklore also states that boasting or swearing about your fortunate find is a terrible mistake. Therefore, beware if your treasured purchase on April 10 at Greenfield Hall should prove of such high value that it makes you hoard...anything! Remember, next year or the year after, we at Greenfield Hall will ask for donations for our next SALE and expect that those who have stored up treasures will share.

SOCIETY TO HOST RIDGEWOOD VISITORS

by Jean Lawes

On May 5, Barbara Ferrante of Ridgewood, NJ and her group of 40-50 adult art history students will travel to Historic Haddonfield for the day. Ann Biddle has volunteered to give the General House tour, Don Wallace will highlight the Cellar Collections, and Shirley Raynor has offered to tell all about the Antique Doll Collection. Dianne Snodgrass and other interested volunteers will field general questions and help direct traffic throughout the house.

Following their stay at Greenfield Hall, the visitors will dine at one of the local restaurants and then be treated to a personalized bus tour given by our own Doug Rauschenberger. Doug will not only share his knowledge of local history, but will also emphasize the Historic District and point out some of the fine examples of classic architecture found in our little Borough. If the weather cooperates, the visitors will end their day with a nice stroll and shopping downtown. We are delighted to have the group visit the Historical Society, and wish them a very enriching and pleasant experience in Haddonfield.

The Historical Society of Haddonfield
343 Kings Highway East
Haddonfield, New Jersey 08033

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Cherry Hill, NJ
Permit # 166

GREENFIELD HALL HOURS

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday afternoons
and the first Sunday afternoon of the month
from 1:00 to 4:00

RESEARCH LIBRARY HOURS

Tuesday and Thursday mornings
from 9:30 to 11:30
and the first Sunday of the month
from 1 to 3 in the afternoon

CLOSED MONTH OF AUGUST

SPECIAL HOURS BY APPOINTMENT

856-429-7375

www.historicalsocietyofhaddonfield.org

Addressee or Current Resident

Calendar Of Events

May 12 Board Meeting, Greenfield Hall, 7:30 PM

May 26 General Meeting, Greenfield Hall, 7:30 PM Program: Bees

June 6 Founder's Day Garden Party & Silent Auction - 2 to 4:30 PM

July 4 Join members in front of Greenfield Hall to watch Haddonfield's parade

July 14 Board Meeting, Greenfield Hall, 7:30 PM

THE SOCIETY IS CLOSED FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST

September. 15 Board Meeting, Greenfield Hall

September 22 General Meeting, Greenfield Hall, 7:30 PM Program: TBA

Summer Library Hours

May through Memorial Day: Tuesday and Thursday,
9:30 to 11:30 AM

June: Monday and Tuesday, 9:30 to 11:30:
first Sunday, June 6, 1 to 3 PM

July: Monday and Tuesday, 9:30 to 11:30:
second Sunday, July 11 instead of July 4, 1 to 3 PM

**August: LIBRARY AND MUSEUM ARE CLOSED
THROUGH LABOR DAY**

September, beginning on the 7th: Tuesday and Thursday,
9:30 to 11:30; open Sunday, September 11 from 1 to 3 PM